

Resolution 2018-1 Bill C-31 & Criminal Aspects Associated with Cryptocurrency

Sponsor: Vancouver Police Board

WHEREAS Created as a response to the banking crisis, Bitcoin and other Cryptocurrencies have been adopted by society.

WHEREAS Cryptocurrencies centre on the principles of decentralization and anonymity.

WHEREAS Cryptocurrencies lack both controlling authority and regulating mechanisms.

WHEREAS The lack of a regulatory framework allows opportunities for criminal to exploit Cryptocurrencies through ATMs, exchanges, and money laundering.

WHEREAS Misuse of Cryptocurrencies pose a threat to society with fraudsters employing scams, often preying on vulnerable victims such as the elderly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Governance recommends to the Federal Government that provisions within Bill-C31 be implemented to limit the criminal aspects associated with Cryptocurrency.

Resolution 2018-2 Funding to Health Canada to Combat the Opioid Crisis

Sponsor: Vancouver Police Board

WHEREAS British Columbia is in the midst of an opioid crisis that has been declared a public health emergency.

WHEREAS In 2016, 993 British Columbians died from drug overdoses and in 2017, there were 1,422 deaths from drug overdoses.

WHEREAS Fentanyl was detected in 68% of drug overdose deaths in 2016 and 81% in 2017. Overdose fatalities are now the leading cause of unnatural deaths in British Columbia, and are increasing nationally as the opioid epidemic moves east from Western Canada.

WHEREAS It has been a priority for the VPD to combat the opioid crisis by targeting both organized crime groups and street-level networks that distribute deadly drugs.

WHEREAS Health Canada is an essential partner to law enforcement. Health Canada's drug analysis services are essential to police investigations and provide documentation for evidentiary purposes. Drug analyses provide a better understanding of illicit drug trends that are responsible for overdose deaths.

WHEREAS Increased capacity at Health Canada for timelier drug analysis results would significantly expedite police investigations and assist with Crown Counsel's charge approval process.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Canadian Association of Police Governance recommends the Federal Government allocate additional funding for Health Canada, to expand their capacity for drug analysis, which will assist in combatting the opioid crisis.

Resolution 2018-3 CANNABIS FUNDING RESOLUTION

Sponsor: The Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

WHEREAS Bill C-45, an Act that will provide legal access to cannabis and will control and regulate its production, distribution and sale (hereinafter the "*Cannabis Act*") received Royal Assent;

WHEREAS Bill C-46, which will amend the provisions of the *Criminal Code of Canada* that deal with offences and procedures relating to drug-impaired driving (hereinafter the "*Criminal Code amendments*") received Royal Assent;

WHEREAS recreational cannabis will become legal on October 17, 2018;

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 174 which will, *inter alia*, regulate the use and distribution of recreational cannabis in Ontario and amend the provisions of the *Highway Traffic Act* that deal with offences and procedures related to drug-impaired driving (hereinafter the “*Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017*”);

WHEREAS having regard to the experiences of other jurisdictions that have legalized cannabis, the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments, and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017*:

Will result in increased cannabis consumption and a corresponding increase in demands on police resources for cannabis related enforcement and calls for service;

Will result in an increase in the number of *Criminal Code* and *Highway Traffic Act* offences associated with cannabis consumption and driving; and

Will not eliminate the prevalence of organized crime in the production, distribution and sale of cannabis;

WHEREAS the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017* will result in a significant increase in police training costs associated with, *inter alia*, cannabis enforcement, standard field sobriety testing, the use of roadside drug testing equipment and qualifying police officers as drug recognition experts for the purpose of impaired driving investigations and trials;

WHEREAS the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017* will require police services to purchase expensive roadside drug testing equipment and supplies;

WHEREAS the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017* will require police services to hire and train additional front line officers to respond to the increase in demands on police resources for cannabis related enforcement and calls for service;

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board (the “Board”) has determined, based on a financial outlook and having regard to the experiences of other jurisdictions that have legalized cannabis, that the approximate additional expenses that municipalities will incur a result of the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017* amounts to approximately \$5.92 per capita or two per cent of the police annual operating budget;

WHEREAS in the absence of sufficient funding from the federal, provincial and territorial governments presumably from cannabis related sales and taxation, taxpayers will be required to bear the brunt of these policing cost increases either through a significant increase in their property taxes or a significant decrease in the level of service provided to them;

WHEREAS on July 15, 2017, the CAPG endorsed the Board’s Resolution on the effective policing of the *Cannabis Act* and forwarded the resolution to the Canadian Association of Police Governance, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Premier of Ontario, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, local Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The CAPG calls on the federal and provincial governments to provide funding to police services to offset the additional expenses that will incur as a result of the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, the *Criminal Code* amendments and the *Ontario Cannabis Act, 2017*.
2. The CAPG calls on the federal and provincial governments to establish a stable funding program for cannabis related law enforcement and to provide sufficient funding to police services, on an ongoing basis and at a minimum rate of at least \$5.92 per capita.
3. The CAPG call upon the Government of Canada to provide the Boards with sustainable and sufficient funding for cannabis related law enforcement as aforesaid.